

**TOWN OF DARIEN
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
SPECIAL MEETING
SEPTEMBER 19, 2016**

ATTENDANCE: First Selectman Jayme Stevenson; Robert Richards, Susan Marks, Marc Thorne, Charles Koons

STAFF: Kate Clarke Buch, Town Administrator

CALL TO ORDER

First Selectman Stevenson called the meeting to order at 7:41 p. m. and led the assembly in the pledge of allegiance.

FIRST SELECTMAN'S REPORT

First Selectman's Report
September 19, 2016

- Congratulations to Kate Buch and our Finance Department team for their outstanding work that has again, resulted in the Town of Darien receiving a Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting from the Government Finance Officers Association. This COA is the highest form of recognition in the area of government accounting and financial reporting and is a reflection on the high quality of our financial management system and personnel. Well done.
- On Friday, 9/15, I received a letter from Post 53 acknowledging that on 10/3/16 (in-town paramedic start date), Post 53 will change its service skill authorization from Mobile Intensive Care – Advanced EMT to a Basic Life Support Ambulance, EMT service. This change was anticipated given the new educational requirements imposed on staff to maintain the AEMT level of service.

Thank you to the following staff and board members for stepping forward to participate on CCM policy committees:

Kate Buch – Committee on Municipal Law and Liability Insurance
John Zagrodzky – Committee on Taxes and Finance
Duke Dineen – Committee on Education

- Aquarian has issued a mandatory ban on outdoor landscape watering. Aquarian president Charles Firlotte is asking customers to turn off irrigation systems for the season to help and sure we have adequate water supply for everyday use and fire protection. Connecticut's drought level has been upgraded to "severe" recently and although today's rain is welcomed... it will do little to improve drought conditions. We are almost 10" below average rainfall for this year to date and nearly 2' below average for the past 3 years.

- Today I attended the second meeting of an adhoc group of people from Greenwich, Stanford, Norwalk, Westport, and New Canaan to discuss regional bike route planning. The regional collaboration grew out of a meeting I had with our Health Director and the Norwalk Health Department to plan a safe bike route from Darien Train Station to Norwalk Community College. I was interested to know what our neighboring communities are doing regarding bike routes and how we could collaborate to optimize connectivity between communities. Today we learned details about the East Coast Greenway, Merritt Parkway Trail and the Norwalk River Valley Trail systems. I'm seeking any interested community members who would like to join me in this bike route planning work. Call or email me if you are interested.

Several of us attended this evening the swearing in of four police officers to the Darien Police Squad. They will now go for twenty-six weeks at the Police Academy and then come back for ten more weeks of training before they are out on the street. They are a great group of individuals. The Police Commission did an outstanding job of seating these officers. It is refreshing to see the diversity that is coming to the squad with the addition of these new hires.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

No report was given.

NEW BUSINESS

Report from Darien Boat Club on Removal of Underground Gas Tanks

Mr. David Dever came forward to report on the Darien Boat Club removal of underground gas tanks. He stated that after 30 years the current tanks must be replaced as a matter of Connecticut law. We are now in the 29th year of the tanks and we have started to look for license contractors to install a new tank. First they will pull out the old tanks, and then put the new ones in the same place and strap them down. Island Pump and Tank is the contractor that was selected. He stated a chain-link fence will be placed around the area the old tanks, the gas in the tank will be removed and hopefully sold, the sludge will be cleaned out, the tanks will be disposed of, and the new tank will be placed in the spot.

The report has been given to DEP and the Fire Marshal. No red flags were raised. The capacity of the new tank will be 10,000 gallons. The hose and wiring that goes between the tanks is brand new after Hurricane Sandy. It will take approximately two weeks to complete and will be done after boating season need in the end of November.

Discuss and Take Action on Appointment of a Building Committee for the Public Works Garage

First Selectman Stevenson stated that in accordance with the adopted charge of the Public Works Garage Building Committee, the Board of Selectmen hereby appoints the following members to the Public Works Garage Building Committee:

Charles (Kip) Koons, Jon Zagrodzky, Liz Bacon, Martha Banks, James Bosek, Jennifer Hill, and Joseph Pagliarulo.

- ** MR RICHARDS MOVED TO APPROVE THE APPOINTMENTS TO THE PUBLIC WORKS GARAGE BUILDING COMMITTEE.**
- ** MR. THORNE SECONDED THE MOTION.**
- ** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY WITH ONE ABSTENTION (MR. KOONS.)**

APPOINTMENTS/REAPPOINTMENTS

Consider and take action on the following reappointments:

Discuss and Take Action on the reappointment of Amy Doering to the Parks & Recreation Commission for the term of April 1, 2016 to March 31, 2019

Discuss and Take Action on the reappointment of James Millard to the Environmental Protection Commission for the term of July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2019

- ** MR. KOONS MOVED TO APPROVE THE REAPPOINTMENT OF AMY DOERING TO THE PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION FOR THE TERM OF APRIL 1, 2016 TO MARCH 31, 2019 AND THE REAPPOINTMENT OF JAMES MILLARD TO THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION COMMISSION FOR THE TERM OF JULY 1, 2016 TO JUNE 30, 2019**
- ** MR. THORNE SECONDED THE MOTION.**
- ** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Consider and take action on the following appointments:

Discuss and Take Action on the appointment of James Metzger to the Commission on Aging for the term of April 1, 2016 to March 31, 2019

- ** MR. RICHARDS MOVED TO APPROVE THE APPOINTMENT OF JAMES METZGER TO THE COMMISSION ON AGING FOR THE TERM OF APRIL 1, 2016 TO MARCH 31, 2019.**
- ** MS. MARKS SECONDED THE MOTION.**
- ** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

AGENDA REVIEW

Ms. Marks stated that she would like to get an update from the Volunteer Fire Departments on how the payment system is working and how the new dispatch is going.

Mr. Richards stated that he would like to meet the new paramedics in October. Ms. Stevenson stated that an Open House when the new facility opens would be a good idea.

Mr. Thorne asked what is holding up Hecker Avenue. Ms. Buch stated that the Attorney General's office determines the pace that it moves at, and hopefully it will come up in October.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Executive Session of September 12, 2016

Mr. Koons stated that the minutes should reflect that the Executive Session was for Personnel and not for Litigation.

- ** MR. RICHARDS MOVE TO APPROVE EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 12, 2016.**
- ** MR. KOONS SECONDED THE MOTION.**
- ** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

FORTHCOMING MEETINGS

September 20, 2016 Board of Education 7:30 p. m.

September 26, 2016 Representative Town Meeting 8:00 p. m.

October 4, 2016 Department Heads 8:30 a. m.

October 4, 2016 Board of Selectmen immediately following Department Heads meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

- ** MR. THORNE MOVED TO ADJORN THE MEETING.**
- ** MR. KOONS SECONDED THE MOTION.**
- ** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The meeting adjourned at 8:00 p. m.

Respectfully submitted,

Tom Blaney
Telesco Secretarial Services